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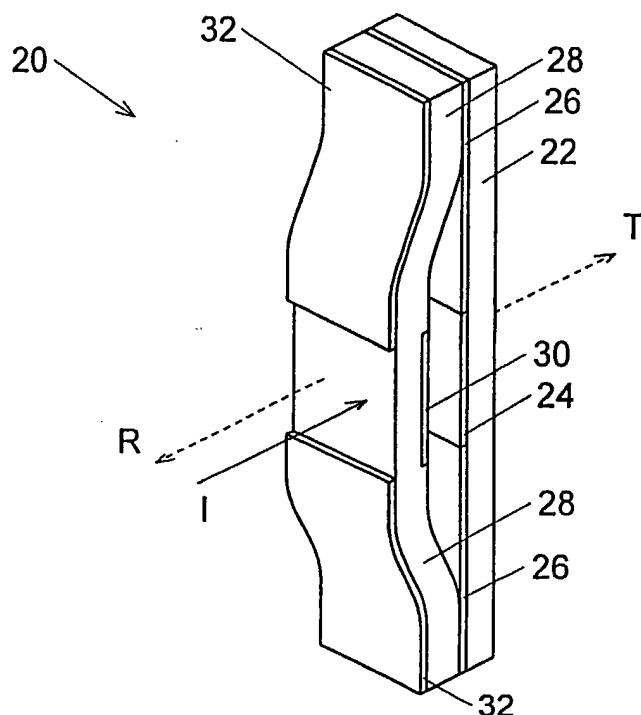
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INTERFEROMETRIC MODULATION OF LIGHT



(57) Abstract: An interferometric light modulator includes a base and a ribbon suspended above the base. The ribbon has a central region and first and second conducting regions located outside of the central regions. The base includes a second mirror located parallel and adjacent to the first mirror so that the first and second mirrors form an interferometric cavity. An electrical bias applied to the first and second conducting regions adjusts the interferometric cavity in order to modulate light which is incident upon the central region of the ribbon. In an alternative interferometric light modulator, the light is incident upon a second central region of the base.

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 835 255 A (MILES MARK W) 10 November 1998 (1998-11-10) cited in the application	1-7, 9, 11-21
Y	column 13, line 25 - line 64 column 17, line 66 - column 18, line 6 column 19, line 56 - line 60 figure 20	8, 10
Y	WO 99 34484 A (CORETEK INC) 8 July 1999 (1999-07-08) page 10, paragraph 1	8, 10
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